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## **NURSE PRACTITIONER AND NURSE-MIDWIVES NEW AUTHORITY TO REQUEST AND SIGN FOR PHARMACEUTICAL SAMPLE MEDICATIONS**

**Effective August 24, 2002**

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Senate Bill 1558 (Figueroa), Chapter 263, was signed by Governor Gray Davis on August 24, 2002, to take effect immediately. The new law allows certified nurse practitioners and certified nurse-midwives **to sign for the request and receipt of complimentary samples of dangerous drugs and dangerous devices identified in their standardized procedure or protocol that have been approved by the physician.**

BPC Section 4061 Pharmacy law has been updated to: "However, a certified nurse-midwife who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure or protocol described in Section 2746.51 (Furnishing), a nurse practitioner who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure or protocol in Section 2836.1 (Furnishing), or protocol, or a physician assistant who functions pursuant to a protocol described in Section 3502.1, may sign for the request and receipt of complimentary samples of a dangerous drug or dangerous device that has been identified in the standardized procedure, protocol, or practice agreement. Standardized procedure, protocols, and practice agreements shall include specific approval by the physician. A review process, consistent with the requirements of Section 2725 (NPA, Guideline for Standardized Procedure (11)) or 3502.1 (physician assistant) of the complimentary samples requested and received by the NP, CNM, PA shall be defined within the standardized procedure, protocol, or practice agreement.